

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for matching a color with a corresponding color
2 in a defined color space, comprising:
3 scanning an object having the color to be matched to produce a color image data
4 signal representative of said object;
5 mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the
6 corresponding color; and
7 ~~informing a user~~ determining an identity of the corresponding color; and
8 sending the identity of the corresponding color over a network to a website.

1 2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the identity of the
2 corresponding color ~~[[has]]~~ comprises a reference number ~~associated therewith~~, and wherein
3 sending the identity ~~the step of informing a user~~ of the corresponding color comprises ~~the step of~~
4 ~~informing the user of~~ sending the reference number associated with said corresponding color.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, using said reference
2 number to match a color with the color to be matched.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, displaying said reference
2 number.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region on
2 said object, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region of
2 said color image data signal, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object comprises a plurality of
2 colors, and further comprising selecting one of said plurality of colors as said color to be
3 matched.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object has a texture, and further
2 comprising processing said color image data signal to remove the influence of said texture from
3 the color image data signal.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said defined color space comprises the
2 Pantone Matching System.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein mapping said color image data signal
2 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color comprises using a color look-up
3 table.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:
5 computing an average red tristimulus value, an average green tristimulus value,
6 and an average blue tristimulus value from the red, green and blue tristimulus values of
7 one or more of said plurality of pixels; and
8 inputting the average red, green, and blue tristimulus values into said color
9 look-up table to obtain the corresponding color.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:

5 inputting the red, green and blue tristimulus values of one or more of said
6 plurality of pixels into said color look-up table to obtain one or more reference numbers;
7 and

8 computing an average reference number from said one or more reference
9 numbers, the average reference number identifying said corresponding color.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A system for matching a color with a corresponding color
2 in a defined color space, comprising:

3 scanning apparatus, said scanning apparatus ~~seanning to scan~~ an object having the
4 color to be matched, said scanner apparatus ~~producing to produce~~ a color image data
5 signal representative of said object; and

6 a computer operatively associated with said scanner apparatus, said computer
7 ~~mapping to:~~

8 in response to user selection, select a color region of the color image data
9 signal representative of said object;

10 determine a dominant color from a plurality of colors in the selected color
11 region;

12 map a portion of said color image data signal corresponding to the
13 dominant color to the defined color space to ascertain an identity of the corresponding
14 color; and

15 present the identity of the corresponding color to a user; ~~said computer~~
16 ~~informing a user of the corresponding color.~~

1 15. – 17. (Cancelled)

1 18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said object has a texture, and further
2 comprising,

3 at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said
4 computer; and

5 computer readable program code for removing the influence of the texture from
6 said color image data signal, the computer readable program code being stored on said at
7 least one computer readable storage device.

1 19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

2 at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said
3 computer; and

4 a color look-up table stored on the at least one computer readable storage device,
5 said computer using the color look-up table when mapping said portion of the color
6 image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the identity of the corresponding
7 color.

1 20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said defined color space comprises
2 the Pantone Matching System.

1 21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein sending the identity of the corresponding
2 color to the website comprises sending the identity of the corresponding color to a shopping
3 website for purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1 22. (New) The method of claim 7, further comprising randomly selecting pixels in
2 the selected color region, wherein mapping said color image data signal to the defined color
3 space comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to the randomly
4 selected pixels to the defined color space.

1 23. (New) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining a dominant color
2 in the selected color region using histograms representing respective colors,
3 wherein mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space
4 comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to the
5 determined dominant color to the defined color space.

1 24. (New) The system of claim 14, wherein the computer determines the dominant
2 color in the selected color region using histograms representing the plurality of colors.

1 25. (New) An article comprising a storage device containing program code that when
2 executed cause a system to:
3 receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner, wherein the
4 object has a texture;
5 process the color image data to remove influence of the texture, the processing
6 producing a de-texturized color image data; and
7 map the de-texturized color image data to determine a corresponding color in a
8 defined color space.

1 26. (New) The article of claim 25, wherein the program code when executed cause
2 the system to send an identity of the corresponding color over a network to a website.

1 27. (New) The article of claim 26, wherein sending the identity of the corresponding
2 color to the website comprises sending the identity of the corresponding color to a shopping
3 website for purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1 28. (New) A system comprising:

2 a storage device to store information representing a defined color space; and

3 a processor to:

4 receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner;

5 map the color image data to a corresponding color in the defined color

6 space;

7 determine an identity of the corresponding color; and

8 communicate the identity of the corresponding color to a website.

1 29. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is adapted to send the

2 identity of the corresponding color to a shopping website in response to user selection to enable a

3 purchase of a product containing the corresponding color.

1 30. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is adapted to, in response

2 to user selection, select a color region of the color image data, and wherein the processor is

3 adapted to map a portion of the color image data corresponding to the selected color region to the

4 defined color space.

1 31. (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the processor is adapted to randomly

2 select pixels in the selected color region, and wherein the processor is adapted to map a portion

3 of the color image data corresponding to the randomly selected pixels to the defined color space.

1 32. (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the processor is adapted to determine a

2 dominant color in the selected color region using histograms representing respective colors, and

3 wherein the processor is adapted to map a portion of the color image data corresponding to the

4 determined dominant color to the defined color space.